

# TONOPAH DAILY BONANZA

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W. W. BOOTH, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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## EDITORIAL COMMENT.

### THEY ARE GETTING SENSITIVE

Some time ago the Tonopah Bonanza took occasion to hint that the Standard Oil company, a corporation more or less generally known of, and which is alleged to do a small business in oil, had much to do with the price at which oil is sold to the consumer. Straightway we receive a letter from the above named corporation stating that the concern has nothing to do with the selling price of oil, whatever. The letter, aside from its subtle humor, conveyed to us the impression that it is against the law for a corporation to fix the selling price on any commodity in restraint of trade, and, of course, the Standard Oil would no more think of violating the law than would a certain modest and retiring gentleman named Rockefeller think of casting aside his toupee and endeavor to coax into being a luxuriant growth of cranial vegetation by liberal applications of his own petroleum. Oh no!

Then, again, we made the statement that much meat is sold in southern Nevada which reaches the consumer long after the shade of the departed animal has become acquainted with every pasture, every water place, every salt lick or wallow of the Elysian fields, the carcass held from dissolution by triumphs of anti-mortuary specialists—which triumphs embrace both the modern form of cold storage plant and the discovery of formaldehyde.

We mentioned no names, accuse no specific individual, firm, corporation, association or thing of marketing such meat—merely said much of it is sold. And yet here comes, posthaste, a representative of the packing firm of Armour and company and suggests to us a suit for libel. Why such haste? Why such a leap into the gap which was left in the Bonanza article through omission of any name? Why such a grabbing for the shoe which the Bonanza had pitched into the street for any poor soul—no, corporations are commonly reputed to be soulless—to wear who had lost a shoe, or whom the shoe would fit? We must be content with the conclusion that the Armour company was anxious to let it be known that the embalming of meats, which is a very ancient and at one time honorable practice and which has handed certain Egyptian gentlemen down to us in a very well preserved state, their age considered, is now against the law of the land, and that the company would not think of crossing the letter or the spirit of the laws. Of course it would not!

### SCIENCE AND THE MINER

The trend of events in the scientific world is more and more toward facilitating the economical development of the natural resources of the country, and nowhere has there been more progress made of late years than in the mining world. Time was when the metals, base or precious, could be extracted from ores by crude methods and in sufficient quantities for all practical demand. Gold and silver were found in a few mines and in placers in such state and in such richness that even the old arasta made fortunes for mining men, and kept the world in metal. Ores which are now considered rich enough to justify the erection of immense mills and smelters were thrown aside as refuse. But the low grade proposition was one which could only be taken up by huge combinations of capital, and thousands of great low grade properties have remained undeveloped because the owners could not afford to or arrange to have costly mills erected.

The trend now is toward enabling the mining man of small means to own his own mill, and we predict that before many years shall have passed the mining districts of the west will be the location of hundreds of small mills and small smelters, employing but few men individually, and saving to the mine owners the cost of transportation of ore, smelting charges, and all the many outside charges which take the profit from the small mine. Milling machinery is constantly being made to yield greater output for applied horsepower and cost, and at the same time to effect a greater saving in values, and where water or electric power is available the single unit plant can be run practically as economically as can the big mill with its multiplication of units. A new smelting process is being perfected which may be installed to handle the product of a small mine, or installed by owners of a number of small mines to handle the aggregate product, on a co-operative basis, and where formerly a smelter cost from \$100,000 upward—and must necessarily be a huge affair in order to make interest upon investment, it is claimed that it is practicable to construct the new process plant at a cost of from \$5,000 to \$10,000—and the small plant just as economical and paying as the large plant if it is so suited to the amount of ore in sight that it may be run continuously.

The power proposition, which has long been a vital problem in sections of the country remote from water, timber or coal, has been solved, thanks primarily to the automobile. Previous to the advent of the automobile, the combustion engine was a crude affair, unreliable and costly. The keen rivalry between the builders of automobiles, also experiments with aeronautic craft, has caused some of the keenest constructive genius of the world to bend its every effort upon the development of the combustion engine, with the result that the combustion engine of today a reliable, adapted to gas, gasoline, distillate, and even crude oil, or alcohol, burning fuels which are at the same time compact and easy of transportation and cheap. The combustion engine is today almost as serious a rival of the steam engine as electricity, and time will come when the power field will be occupied in practical entirety by the electric motor and the combustion engine. Steam is gradually growing too costly—in other words, it is too far from the fire box to the driving shaft.

Every day science is making some forward step toward the relief of the miner, and the makers of mine equipment are realizing that while their market is in a way limited as long as only the huge mill and smelter can exist, when they perfect the small mine mill and smelter, which small combinations of capital can purchase and small forces of men operate, their market will be unlimited.

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### ASKS FOR LETTERS.

Public Administrator L. L. Blumenthal yesterday filed a petition asking for letters of administration in the estate of Dan Djirakovic, who died in this city last June. The value of the estate is unknown.

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## JIM CORBETT AT THE PAVILION

James J. Corbett, whose earnest efforts in recent years as a player of parts, and whose success has been quite sufficient to entitle him to consideration as an actor rather than as a pugilistic champion, will fill a night's engagement at the pavilion next Wednesday at the head of his own company in "Facing the Music." The engagement will be doubly interesting from the fact that Mr. Corbett is a prime favorite in this city, and his new play will give him abundant opportunity to demonstrate his talents as a comedian. Those who have heard Mr. Corbett in his highly humorous monologue, will not have to be told that he is really a comedian. Much of the effect of his humor is in its very drollness, and his friends will readily agree that it will not tax Mr. Corbett's resources to maintain fast pace in this distinctly funny play, in which he has been surrounded with a particularly capable cast of players.

"Facing the Music" was originally produced in New York with Henry E. Dixey in the principal character, and it enjoyed a long run at the Madison Square theater. It was subsequently disclosed at Powers' theater in Chicago, where it ran throughout the summer a few years ago.

Last winter H. H. Frazee, who entered into a contract with Mr. Corbett under the terms of which the latter was to be starred decided that "Facing the Music" was just the thing for his stalwart and handsome George. The work is by Charles

Henry Darnley, and the story may be briefly told:

In a Kensington flat there lived two John Smiths, one a curate and the other a sportively inclined young man, with a liking for the race track. Both the Mr. Smiths were married to young and attractive Mrs. Smiths, and as both Mrs. Smiths have been out of town and the curate engaged a Kensington flat during his wife's absence, and as both Mrs. Smiths return unexpectedly and one of them late at night during a heavy fog and is shown into the wrong Smith flat, the complications can better be imagined than described. Suffice to say that with the aid of an actress and a detective everyone becomes involved in a door opening and door slamming affair, that keeps the audience in a state of hilarity, ranging from a polite titter to a boisterous guffaw and culminating every now and then in enthusiastic applause. As John Smith, the sportively inclined flat dweller, Mr. Corbett ought to give a good account of himself. Among the prominent members of the supporting company are the Messrs. Joseph Sullivan, Corwin Luskmoor, Charles Horn, Tom Dare and the Misses Eleanor Montell, Amalada Hendricks, Lillian Leslie and Mae Dudley. Appropriate and complete scenic equipment has been provided. The prices for Corbett's engagement here will be 50c, \$1, \$1.50, \$2. Reserved seats may be secured in advance at the Miners' drug store.

## PROVISIONS OF THE LAW AS TO OIL LOCATIONS

Just at this particular time when indications seem to point to the development of oil fields in this vicinity, as well as in other parts of Nevada, the legal aspect of methods pursued in filing claims, becomes of peculiar interest.

The law upon the method to be pursued in filing upon oil land seems clear, but the decisions rendered upon various points leaves one in doubt in regard to minor features. One fact, however, has been abundantly demonstrated. It pays to be on the safe side, and comply with the law in letter as well as in spirit.

The answers to the questions recently asked an attorney well versed in mining laws, and herewith presented, may possibly lead to a better understanding of the situation.

1. What do you consider the status of a placer mineral filing for oil?

2. Does the filing give a possessory right, or is a discovery necessary?

3. Do you consider that the \$100 assessment work per year on roads, etc., without actual discovery of oil appropriates the surface to the exclusion of bona fide locators?

4. It has been customary in some cases to form groups of placer locations in quarter sections and do assessment work of \$100 on the entire 160 acres. Do you consider that this will hold?

1. Any person authorized to enter lands under the mining laws of the United States may enter and obtain patents to lands containing petroleum or other mineral oils and chiefly valuable therefor under the provisions of the laws relating to placer mineral claims. (Act of congress approved February 11, 1897.)

2. According to the provision aforesaid discovery is a necessary prerequisite. It has so been held in numerous instances. On the other hand, however, in Fresno county, California, a number of persons filed on government land which they claimed as agricultural. It was several miles from the proven oil field, but the government refused to accept the application and sent an agent to investigate the matter. The agent reported that no oil had been developed upon the land claimed as agricultural, but the government held that its proximity to the oil field would prevent its entry as agricultural land.

3. The general trend of the law aside from specific provisions, seems to call for direct development work rather than preparatory or incidental work. The conclusion would seem to be that nothing short of actual discovery of oil entitles a location to be made which will withstand legal attack.

4. Where oil lands are located as placer mining claims, the annual assessment labor upon such claims may be done upon any one of a group of claims lying contiguous and owned by the same person or corporation, not exceeding five claims in all; provided, that said labor will tend to the development or to determine the oil-bearing character of such contiguous claims. (Act of congress, approved February 3, 1903.)

### CONTRACTOR STILL IS

#### TRYING TO GET PAID

A demurer was filed Tuesday in the district court by the plaintiffs in the suit of George Holesworth vs. the State Bank and Trust company and the defendants were given ten days by the court to answer. The suit is over a sum aggregating about \$6000, which is due Mr. Holesworth for his services in constructing the State Bank building.

### SPECIAL ATTENTION.

Is called to the sale of men's and boy's clothing, also ladies' and children's coats, all at less than half price, at the Bankrupt store in Miners' hall building. Sale to last a short time longer only.

### CARD OF THANKS.

We desire to publicly express our heartfelt thanks to friends and acquaintances, and particularly to the members and officials of the Miners' union, for the many kindnesses extended by them during the illness and following the death of our beloved husband and father, A. K. Simpson. MRS. A. K. SIMPSON AND FAMILY.

### NEW JAPANESE AMBASSADOR.

TOKIO, Dec. 16—K. Kato, the new Japanese ambassador to Great Britain, was given a farewell audience today by the emperor and afterwards lunched with his imperial majesty, preparatory to departure tomorrow for London, to assume his new duties.

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